

**PATENT IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 09/942,024

FILED ELECTRONICALLY

Applicant: Steward, L. E. et al.

Confirmation No.: 7269

Filed: August 28, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: Zeman, R.A.

Docket No.: 17452 (BOT)

Customer No.: 51957

Patent Title: FRET Protease Assays For  
Botulinum Serotype A/E Toxins

**APPLICANTS' REPLY**

September 6, 2006

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir,

This 18 page communication is responsive to a Non-Final Office Action mailed August 18, 2006. The Office Action has been carefully considered, and the Applicants have the following comments:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of the Applicants' Reply.

**Remarks** begin on page 17 of the Applicants' Reply.